

Worthen, Amos

Drawer 10

Geography

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Abraham Lincoln's Contemporaries

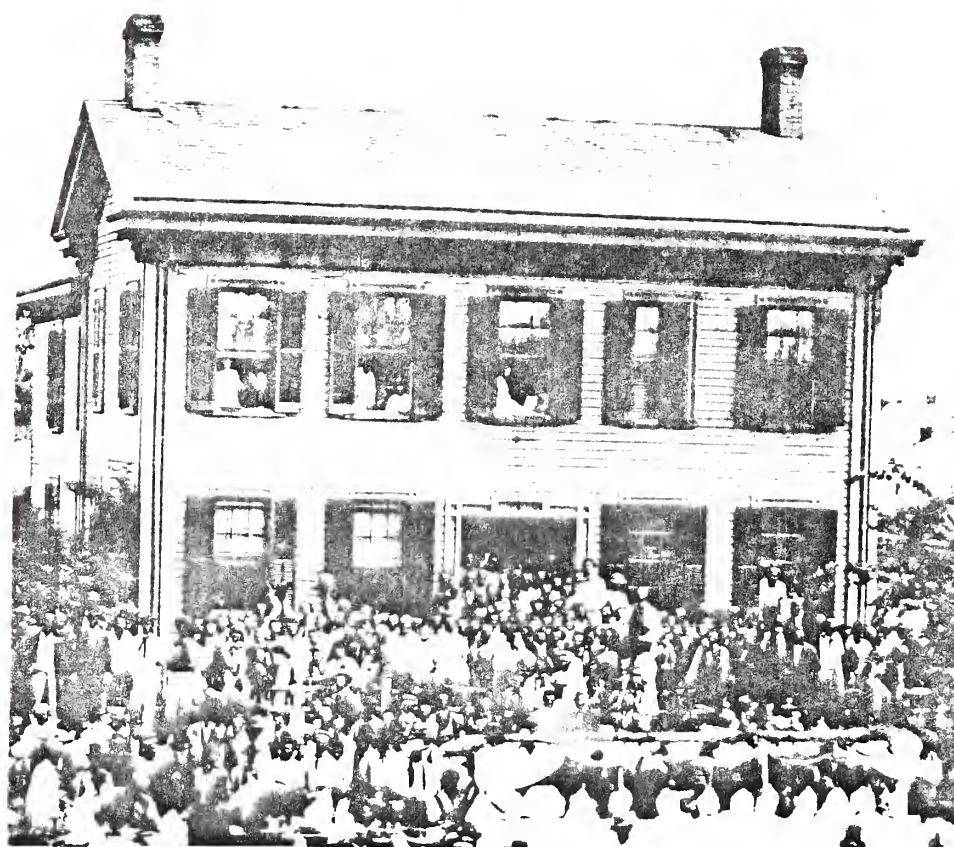
Amos Worthen

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

1980-23

MR. LINCOLN'S NEIGHBORHOOD



THE DIVERSITY OF A NEIGHBORHOOD

The Lincoln neighborhood was composed of an impressive variety of people coming from many different walks of life. Many of the houses that these people resided in no longer exist, but their locations will be described by referring to the positions of the surviving houses which are shown on the map in the center portion of this brochure.

Though the Lincoln neighborhood was part of a city environment, there was a farmer living here. HENSON LYON, who lived in a surviving house to the northwest of the Lincoln Home, owned a farm two-and-a-half miles east of Springfield.

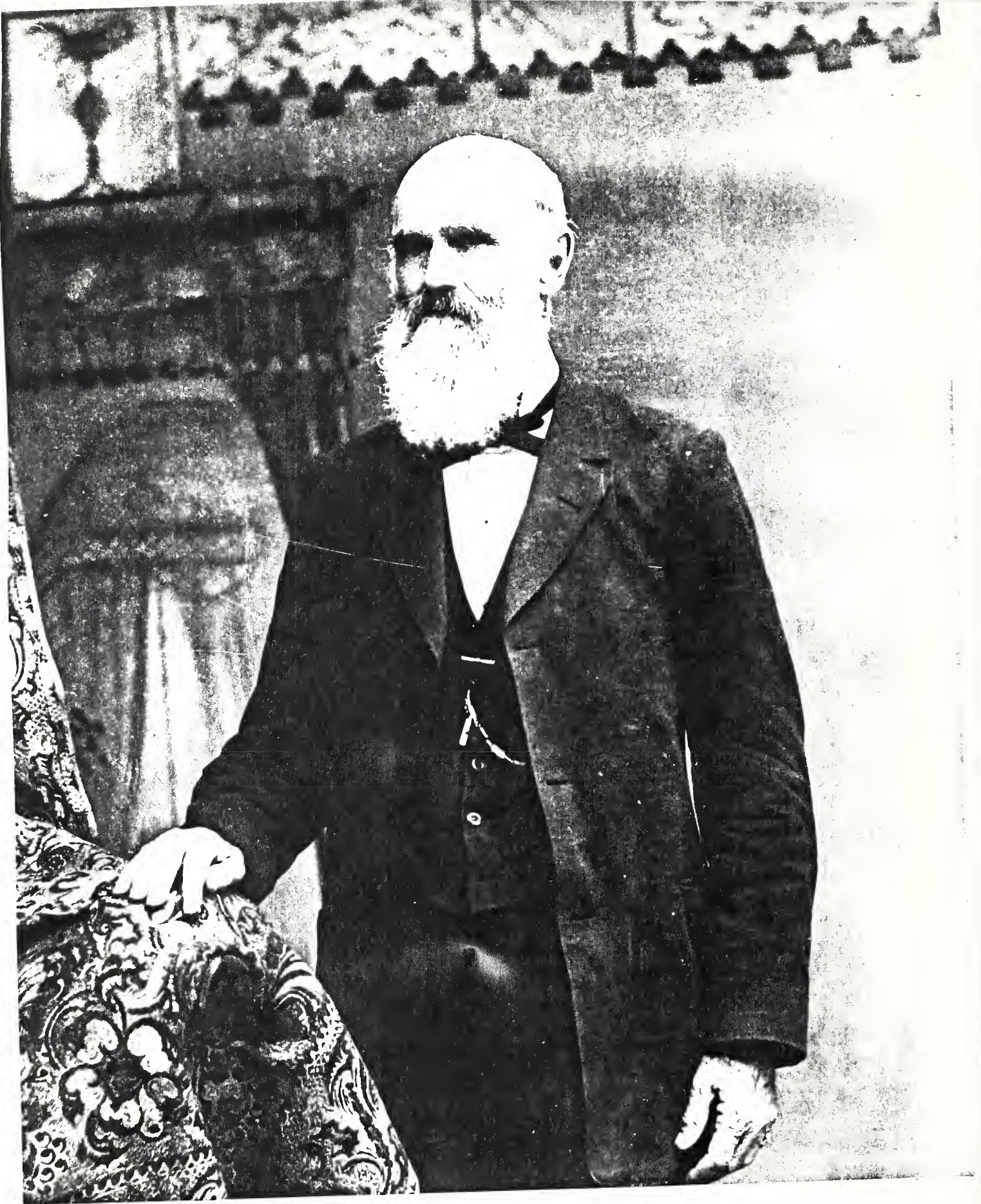
MARY REMANN was a widow who ran a boarding house to help meet expenses. Her boarding house and residence was located just north of the National Park Service Education Center.

JESSE KENT made a living by constructing and repairing carriages. This was an essential occupation in an era when people were dependent on horse-drawn transportation. Kent lived on the property that is now the site of the Education Center.

AMOS WORTHEN was the Illinois State Geologist. During the time that he lived in the Lincoln neighborhood, he was carrying out a survey of the mineral resources and geological features of a portion of the state. His residence was located immediately south of the Education Center.

JARED P. IRWIN was a bricklayer who assisted with the construction of what is today called the Old State Capitol. In 1860, he was elected vice president of the Springfield Lincoln Club, which organized support for Lincoln's candidacy for President. His residence was located on the lot between the Arnold House and Sarah Cook House.

The lot immediately to the north of the Henson Robinson residence was the site of a house that was owned and resided in by the Jameson Jenkins family. They were a black family. Jenkin's occupation was moving goods in a wagon. It was Jameson Jenkins who drove the carriage carrying Abraham Lincoln to the train depot on the day of Lincoln's departure from Springfield on his way to his inauguration as President.



Amos Worthen (Have b & w glossy in restricted photographs)
(Credit Illinois State Museum)

A Lincoln neighbor-----

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A Lincoln neighbor-----

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